

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A laparoscopic instrument comprising:

(a) a housing including a first axial bore, a first actuator rod disposed for axial movement within the first axial bore, and an actuator connected to said first actuator rod;

(b) an elongated body connected to said housing comprising a second axial bore and a second actuator rod connected to said first actuator rod and disposed for axial movement within the second axial bore; and

(c) an operative tip comprising first and second jaws connected to said elongated body for movement between an open position and a closed position in response to axial movement of said second actuator rod, each jaw having a respective roller mounted thereon for free rotational movement.

2. The laparoscopic instrument according to claim 1 wherein said actuator comprises first and second pivotally connected handles, each handle having an opening for receipt

of a user's finger, at least said first handle being connected to said first actuator rod and movable to cause axial movement of said first actuator rod.

3. The laparoscopic instrument according to claim 1 wherein each jaw comprises a pivot portion and a shaft portion, said pivot portion having an opening for receipt of a rotatable pin pivotally mounting said first and second jaws, wherein rotation of said pin causes said first and second jaws to move between the open position and the closed position.

4. The laparoscopic instrument according to claim 3 wherein each roller is removably mounted to a corresponding shaft portion.

5. The laparoscopic instrument according to claim 3 wherein said second actuator rod comprises a U-shaped extension including first and second arms having opposing tubular pegs and a trough having angled edges for rotation of said rotatable pin in response to axial movement of said second actuator rod and wherein each pivot portion comprises a peg opening for receipt of a respective peg for rotation of

said pivot portion about said peg in response to axial movement of said second actuator rod.

6. A method for propelling a foreign body along an anatomical duct for accessing and removing the foreign body comprising the steps of:

inserting into an anatomical cavity a laparoscopic instrument comprising:

(a) a housing including a first axial bore, a first actuator rod disposed for axial movement within the first axial bore, and an actuator connected to the first actuator rod;

(b) an elongated body connected to said housing comprising a second axial bore and a second actuator rod connected to the first actuator rod and disposed for axial movement within the second axial bore; and

(c) an operative tip comprising first and second jaws connected to said elongated body for movement between an open position and a closed position in response to axial movement

of said second actuator rod, each jaw having a respective roller mounted thereon for free rotational movement;

said laparoscopic instrument being inserted in the closed position;

opening the jaws;

closing in part the jaws over an anatomical duct to apply pressure to an interior portion of the duct;

moving the laparoscopic instrument to cause the rollers to rotate over the anatomical duct to propel the foreign body along the duct to an accessible location for removal.

7. The method according to claim 6 wherein said laparoscopic instrument is inserted into the anatomical cavity through a laparoscopic trocar.

8. The method according to claim 6 wherein the elongated body has a diameter less than 5 mm.

9. The method according to claim 6 wherein said actuator comprises first and second pivotally connected handles, each handle having an opening for receipt of a user's finger, at least said first handle being connected to said first actuator rod and movable to cause axial movement of said first actuator rod and effect opening and closing of the jaws.

10. The method according to claim 6 wherein the anatomical duct is a member of the group consisting of a common duct, a cystic duct, a biliary duct and a ureter.